GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2127
ANSWERED ON:27.08.2007
TERMINATION OF MOBILE CONNECTIONS
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the several lakh of mobile connections have been terminated in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last two years, company-wise;

(c) whether such connections were issued on the fake and incomplete documents and the Government had not investigated into these connections; and

(d) if so, the names of the private mobile companies against which action has been taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) to (d) Sir, as per license conditions, the mobile telephone service providers are required to ensure adequate verification of each and every customer before enrolling him as subscriber. Instructions in this regard have been issued from time to time by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) to all the service providers.

Some instances came to the notice of DoT that certain mobile service providers are not complying with the above licence condition fully in some service areas. Special drives were conducted to ascertain the status of subscriber verification through sample checks. Based on the observations of special drive, the matter was reviewed and directions were issued to concerned service providers to disconnect such connections that have been provided without proper verification. In addition, instructions were also issued for re-verification of existing subscribers by end of March, 2007.

As per reports from the mobile service providers and their associations, M/s Aircel has de-activated more than 3 lakh connections, M/s Airtel has de-activated more than 5 lakh 86 thousand connections, M/s BPL has de-activated more than 2 lakh 10 thousand connections, M/s HFCL has de-activated more than 4 thousand connections, M/s Idea has de-activated more than 76 thousand connections, M/s MTNL has de-activated more than 1 lakh 70 thousand connections, M/s Spice has de-activated more than 6 lakh 77 thousand connections and M/s Tata has de-activated more than 3 lakh 57 thousand connections during the re-verification process till March,2007.

After 31st March, 2007, similar special drives have been carried out by DoT for auditing the subscriber verification done by service providers and wherever discrepancies have been noticed, action have been initiated according to the terms and conditions of respective Licence Agreement and show-cause notices have been issued to the concerned service providers.